

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Di-aryl substituted ethane pyridones, particularly ethane pyridones substituted with i) a phenyl, ii) a pyridyl, iii) a thiazole, iv) a pyrimidinyl, v) a  
5 pyridazinyl, vi) a furyl, vii) a thienyl, viii) an oxazolyl, ix) an isoxazolyl, or x) an  
isothiazolyl moiety are phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitors useful in the treatment or  
prevention of asthma; chronic bronchitis; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease;  
adult respiratory distress syndrome; infant respiratory distress syndrome; cough;  
chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in animals; adult respiratory distress  
10 syndrome; ulcerative colitis; Crohn's disease; hypersecretion of gastric acid; bacterial,  
fungal or viral induced sepsis or septic shock; endotoxic shock; laminitis or colic in  
horses; spinal cord trauma; head injury; neurogenic inflammation; pain; reperfusion  
injury of the brain; psoriatic arthritis; rheumatoid arthritis; ankylosing spondylitis;  
osteoarthritis; inflammation; or cytokine-mediated chronic tissue degeneration.